

Matsubayashi only discloses the protection of the finger and the like from injury by contact with the sharp cut edge of the easy-open can, rust-prevention and corrosion-prevention by use of an outside repairing coating.

It is therefore submitted that the present invention as defined in independent claims 1, 5, and 9, and all claims dependent thereon, are patentable over Oyagi et al., Layre et al., or Iioka et al. taken with Matsubayashi.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that in view of the foregoing remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that the application be allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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